



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IV

345 COURTLAND STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30308

Site: SANGAMO  
Break: 13.7  
Other: 1/2/76

Thompson -- 404/526-3004  
Zellar -- 404/526-2211

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ATLANTA, GA.--The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control today lifted an advisory against eating fish taken from all portions of Lake Hartwell on the Georgia side, plus portions of the reservoir lying in South Carolina, but warned the advisory may be returned if PCB levels rise again.

The new position on the 55,000 acre lake, where high findings of polychlorinated biphenyls in mid-summer prompted warnings from federal and South Carolina authorities, followed a new round of testing which found readings in several areas below the safety margin recommended.

The advisory is lifted for the Tugaloo Arm of the reservoir and the Main Stem of the lake. The Main Stem, or main body of water, is described as lying downstream from the confluence of the Seneca and Tugaloo Rivers near River Forks State Park.

The advisory remains in effect for the Seneca River Arm. Test results from fish and bottom sediment show the Seneca Arm to be the most contaminated section of the lake, especially in the upper (Twelve Mile Creek) portion.

EPA, South Carolina and Georgia will continue their regular monitoring programs.

